What is claimed is:

1.   In a description of multimedia contents based on usage environment descriptor and user preference descriptor of the multimedia contents, an adaptation method of generating a digital item declaration document, comprising:

applying a "ChoicePrecedence" to an input DID instance document;

modifying a corresponding "ChoicePrecedence" of the input DID instance document in an order designated in the "ChoicePrecedence"; and

generating a rearranged DID instance document.

2.   The adaptation method of claim 1, wherein a process of inserting a DIAinDID descriptor into the DID instance document is preceded so as to make it possible to modify the input DID instance document adaptably, wherein the DIAinDID represents a corresponding choice.

3.   The adaptation method of claim 2, wherein the DIAinDID descriptor includes a "TargetChoice" and a target choice condition.

4.   The adaptation method of claim 1, wherein the DID

23

instance document is an original DID instance document.

5.   The adaptation method of claim 1, wherein the DID
instance document is a recently adapted DID instance document
obtained by modification just before adaptation.

6.   The adaptation method of claim 1, wherein the DID
instance document is a newly adapted DID instance document
generated by a current adaptive modification.

7.   The adaptation method of claim 1, wherein the
"ChoicePrecedence" applies a "SpecifiedPrecedence".

8.   The adaptation method of claim 1, wherein the
"ChoicePrecedence" applies a "BaseChoice".

9.   The adaptation method of claim 1, wherein the
"ChoicePrecedence" is designated as an absolute precedence.

10.   The adaptation method of claim 1, wherein the
"ChoicePrecedence" is designated as one of a "First"
precedence, a "Second" precedence, a "Third" precedence and a
"Last" precedence.

24

11. The adaptation method of claim 1, wherein the "ChoicePrecedence" includes a "Preemptive" excluding previously considered choices from the consideration and performing a configuration process while considering only designated choice.

12. The adaptation method of claim 1, wherein the "ChoicePrecedence" includes a "Delete" precedence deleting a designated choice and performing a configuration process.

13. The adaptation method of claim 1, wherein the "ChoicePrecedence" is a relative precedence and designates higher or lower than a "BaseChoice".

14. The adaptation method of claim 1, wherein the DID instance document is generated by using an attribute of "reset" for using an original DID instance document as an adapted DID instance document just before in case the "ChoicePrecedence" is applied to generate the DID instance document.

15. The adaptation method of claim 1, wherein the DID instance document is generated by using an attribute of "reorder" for referring to choice, which does not exist in an adapted DID instance document just before, in an original DID

instance document in case the "ChoicePrecedence" is applied to generate the DID instance document.

16. The adaptation method of claim 1, wherein the DID instance document is generated by using an attribute of "before" to represent whether to designate higher or lower precedence than a "BaseChoice" in case the "ChoicePrecedence" is applied to generate the DID instance document.

17. In a description of multimedia contents based on usage environment descriptor and user preference descriptor of the multimedia contents, a method of generating a "ChoicePrecedence" descriptor of a digital item, comprising:

describing a "TargetChoice" of the digital item, a condition if necessary, and a "ChoicePrecedenceClass"; and

describing a "SpecifiedPrecedence" or a "BaseChoice" to the "ChoicePrecedenceClass".

18. The method of claim 17, wherein the "ChoicePrecedenceClass" includes a "First" precedence meaning an absolute precedence of a corresponding choice, a "Second" precedence, a "Third" precedence, a "Last" precedence, a "Preemptive" precedence, and a "Delete" precedence.

19. The method of claim 17, wherein the "ChoicePrecedence" descriptor includes an attribute of "reset" for using an original DID instance document as a recently adapted DID instance document, an attribute of "reorder" for referring to choice, which does not exist in an adapted DID instance document just before, in an original DID instance document, and an attribute of "before" for representing whether to designate higher or lower precedence than a "BaseChoice".